

Revenue (1899) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1846

DATED 20th May 99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording Progress Report of Escheat
Settlement in Malabar for March 99

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G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

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Revenue (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 2843

From

The Board of Revenue,
Land Revenue, Madras.

No.

REF. A. No. 127

Dated 27th April 1899

Received 29th do

Registered 29th do

Enclosures 2

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SUBJECT.

Submitting to Government progress report of Escheat settlement in Malabar for March 1899.

Order No. 1846 of 20th May 1899

Recorded

15/5/99

6/5/99

To the Board of Revenue (L.R.)
With Enclosures.

Per 11/5
Recd 4/5

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FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Office of the Board of Revenue
(Land Revenue)

Madras, dated 27th April 1899.

Read Progress Report of escheat settlement in Malabar District for the month of March 1899 received from G.W.Dance - Esq., Collector of Malabar, Dis.No.636-Rev. of 99, dated 19th April 99.

Read also endorsement of the same officer, D. No.582/Rev., dated 14th April 1899.

Reference A.No.127, dated 27th April 1899.

Submitted to Government.

2. The number of title deeds prepared in the Ponnani taluk in the month under report was 91 against 81 in the previous month. The total number of title deeds still to be prepared in this taluk is large, being 1343 under the old settlement and 1110 under the new scheme. In his ~~progress~~ progress report for January 1899 the Collector stated that the delay in completing the work was due to the failure of the parties to produce the necessary stamp papers. The Board accordingly called for a report on the feasibility of -- adopting measures to compel the early production of the necessary stamp papers in the undisposed of cases and enquired whether the -- special establishment entertained in Ponnani might not be dispensed with, if sufficient work could not be found for it. The Collector -- now states that it is neither possible nor expedient to compel the parties to produce stamp papers and that there are enough materials and stamp papers coming in to keep both the clerks in Ponnani fully employed in preparing the title-deeds. Mr. Dance considers that if -- the additional establishment is discontinued the escheat work in -- the taluk will come to a stand still as the ordinary establishment cannot cope with it in addition to their own work. He states that -- the late Tahsildar was in failing health for some time before his death but that something may be hoped for from the greater energy of the present Tahsildar of Ponnani.

3. From this explanation the Board gathers that the -- real obstacle to rapid progress in the preparation of title deeds is not the failure of the party to produce the necessary stamp --

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papers but want of establishment to get through the work on hand with promptness. It appears from the Tahsildar's report that he considers -- that the major portion of the stamp papers remaining still to be produced would be forthcoming, if he toured in the amsams with one of the escheat clerks for a few days. He should be instructed to make such a tour forthwith. The same officer refers to the absence of the parties in many cases as a cause of delay in the disposal of the transfer applications which must be dealt with in order to ascertain in whose name to make out the title deeds. The Tahsildar writes "I have found by experience that the parties concerned in a case seldom attend on the issue of a first summons. They live miles away from head quarters. When the parties are females their attendance is secured with greater difficulty and I had to warn many with criminal prosecution for disobedience of summons". Wherever possible the Tahsildar should arrange his touring so as to permit of the disposal of these cases at the nearest convenient camp. Cases in which ladies of respectable family and position are concerned being disposed of as far as possible in their immediate neighbourhood.

4. A few title deeds were prepared in the Ernad (9) and Palghat (10) taluks but the Board fears that in these and the remaining taluks, other than Ponnani, the Tahsildars concerned have failed to devote sufficient attention to the work. Practically no appreciable progress has been made for months past and the Board must request the Collector to see that this state of things is not permitted to continue any longer.

5. The Special Assistant Collector's explanation of the delay in settling the pending cases in Walavanad taluk is awaited.

Lonel S. S. S.
Ag. Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with Progress report and G/Regr. No. 1672/99 in original to be returned.
-- the Collector of Malabar.

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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